# UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE DIRECTIVE Washington, DC 20401

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE INSTRUCTION 110.11B

Subject: Contractor Suspension and Debarment Procedures

- 1. Purpose. To prescribe policies and procedures governing the suspension and debarment of organizations and individuals participating in Government Printing Office contracts.
- 2. Cancellation. This Instruction supersedes GPO Instruction 110.11A, Subject: Contractor Suspension and Debarment Procedures, dated May 10, 1985.
- 3. Statutory Authority. The United States Government Printing Office (hereinafter GPO) is an agency in the legislative branch of the United States Government. United States v. Allison, 91 U.S. 372 (1876); Thompson v. Sawyer, 678 F.2d 257 (D.C. Cir. 1982); McKenzie v. Sawyer, 684 F.2d 62 (D.C. Cir. 1982); Comp. Gen. Op. B-208272 (1983); Comp. Gen. Op. B-152126 (1963); 36 Comp. Gen. 163 (1956); 34 Comp. Gen. 485 (1955). As such, GPO contract disputes are not subject to procedures prescribed by the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. 551-559, or the Contract Disputes Act of 1978, 41 U.S.C. 601-613. The GPO is under the direction and supervision of the Public Printer of the United States, whose statutory and administrative powers include the authority to enter into contracts on behalf of the United States, and to make final administrative determinations regarding such contracts. See 44 U.S.C. 301, 309, 501, 502.
- 4. Applicability. This Instruction applies to acquisitions of personal property, nonpersonal services (including construction), space in buildings, transportation services, and contracts for the disposal of personal property.

#### 5. Policy

- a. GPO shall solicit offers from, award contracts to, and consent to subcontracts with responsible contractors only. Debarment and suspension are discretionary actions that, taken in accordance with this Instruction, are appropriate means to effectuate this policy.
- b. The serious nature of debarment and suspension requires that these sanctions be imposed only in the public interest for the Government's

protection and not for purposes of punishment. GPO shall impose debarment or suspension to protect the Government's interest and only for the causes and in accordance with the procedures set forth in this Instruction.

#### 6. Definitions

a. "Adequate evidence" means information sufficient to support the reasonable belief that a particular act or omission has occurred.

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- b. "Affiliates." Business concerns, organizations, or individuals are affiliates of each other if, directly or indirectly, (1) either one controls or has the power to control the other, or (2) a third party controls or has the power to control both. Indicia of control include, but are not limited to, interlocking management or ownership, identity of interests among family members, shared facilities and equipment, common use of employees, or a business entity organized following the debarment, suspension, or proposed debarment of a contractor which has the same or similar management, ownership, or principal employees as the contractor that was debarred, suspended, or proposed for debarment.
- c. "Agency," as used in this Instruction, means any department, military department or defense agency, or other agency or independent establishment of the executive, judicial, or legislative branch.
- d. "Civil judgment" means a judgment or finding of a civil offense by any court of competent jurisdiction.
- e. "Contractor," as used in this Instruction, means any individual or other legal entity that (1) directly or indirectly (e.g., through an affiliate) submits offers for or is awarded, or reasonably may be expected to submit offers for or be awarded, a Government contract, including a contract for carriage under Government or commercial bills of lading, or a subcontract under a Government contract; or (2) conducts business, or reasonably may be expected to conduct business, with the Government as an agent or representative of another contractor.
- f. "Conviction" means a judgment or conviction of a criminal offense by any court of competent jurisdiction, whether entered upon a verdict or a plea, and includes a conviction entered upon a plea of nolo contendere.

- g. "Debarment," as used in this Instruction, means action taken by a debarring official under paragraph 8 to exclude a contractor from GPO contracting and GPO-approved subcontracting for a reasonable, specified period; a contractor so excluded is "debarred."
- h. "Debarring Official" means the Public Printer or the Public Printer's designee.
  - i. "Fact-Finding Official" means the GPO Board of Contract Appeals.
- j. "Indictment" means indictment for a criminal offense. An information or other filing by competent authority charging a criminal offense shall be given the same effect as an indictment.
- k. "Ineligible," as used in this Instruction, means excluded from GPO contracting (and subcontracting, if appropriate) pursuant to statutory, Executive Order, or regulatory authority; for example, pursuant to the Davis-Bacon Act and its related statutes and implementing regulations, the Service Contract Act, the Equal Employment Opportunity Acts and Executive Orders, the Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act, the Buy American Act, or the Environmental Protection Acts.
- 1. "Legal Proceedings" means any civil judicial proceeding to which the Government is a party or any criminal proceeding. The term includes appeals from such proceedings.

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- m. "Notice" means a written communication sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the last known address of a party, its identified counsel, or agent for service of process. In the case of a business, such notice may be sent to any partner, principal officer, director, owner or co-owner, or joint venturer. If no return receipt is received within 10 calendar days of mailing, receipt shall then be presumed.
- n. "Preponderance of the evidence" means proof by information that, compared with that opposing it, leads to the conclusion that the fact at issue is more probably true than not.
- o. "Suspending Official" means the Public Printer or the Public Printer's designee.
- p. "Suspension," as used in this Instruction, means action taken by a suspending official under paragraph 13 to disqualify a contractor temporarily from GPO contracting and GPO-approved subcontracting; a contractor so disqualified is "suspended."

# 7. Effect of Suspension or Debarment

- a. Contractors debarred, suspended, or proposed for debarment are excluded from receiving contracts, and the GPO shall not solicit offers from, award contracts to, or consent to subcontracts with these contractors, unless the Director, Procurement Services, or a designee determines that there is a compelling reason for such action. Contractors debarred, suspended, or proposed for debarment are also excluded from conducting business with the Government as agents or representatives of other contractors.
- b. Contractors included on the GPO List of Parties Excluded From Procurement Programs as having been declared ineligible on the basis of statutory or other regulatory procedures are excluded from receiving contracts and, if applicable, subcontracts, under the conditions and for the period set forth in the statute or regulation. GPO shall not solicit offers from, award contracts to, or consent to subcontracts with these contractors under those conditions and for that period.
- c. Contractors debarred, suspended, or proposed for debarment are excluded from acting as individual sureties.
  - d. Post Bid Opening Procedures
- (1) After the opening of bids or receipt of proposals, the Contracting Officer shall review the GPO List of Parties Excluded From Procurement Programs.
- (2) Bids received from any listed contractor in response to an invitation for bids shall be entered on the abstract of bids and rejected unless the Director, Procurement Services, or a designee determines in writing that there is a compelling reason to consider the bid.
- (3) Proposals, quotations, or offers received from any listed contractor shall not be evaluated for award or included in the competitive range, nor shall discussions be conducted with a listed offeror during a period of ineligibility, unless the Director, Procurement Services, or a designee determines, in writing,

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that there is a compelling reason to do so. If the period of ineligibility expires or is terminated prior to award, the Contracting Officer may, but is not required to, consider such proposals, quotations, or offers.

(4) Immediately prior to award, the Contracting Officer shall again

review the List to ensure that no award is made to a listed contractor.

- e. Effect of Action on Existing Contracts
- (1) Notwithstanding the debarment, suspension, or proposed debarment of a contractor, GPO may continue contracts or subcontracts in existence at the time the contractor was debarred, suspended, or proposed for debarment unless the Director, Procurement Services, or a designee directs otherwise.
- (2) When the circumstances giving rise to the debarment or suspension also constitute a default in the contractor's performance of the contract, termination for default under the contract's "Default" clause is appropriate.
- (3) If the contractor presents a significant risk to the Government in completing the current contract, the Contracting Officer shall determine whether termination for convenience or cancellation under appropriate contract provisions is in the Government's best interest. In making this determination, the Contracting Officer shall consult with the Office of General Counsel and should consider the following factors:
  - (a) Seriousness of the cause for debarment or suspension;
  - (b) Extent of contract performance;
  - (c) Potential costs of termination and reprocurement;
- (d) Urgency of the requirement and the impact of the delay of reprocurement;
- (e) Availability of other safeguards to protect the Government's interest until completion of the contract.
- f. GPO shall not renew or otherwise extend the duration of current contracts, or consent to subcontracts, with contractors debarred, suspended, or proposed for debarment, unless the Director, Procurement Services, or a designee states in writing the compelling reasons for renewal or extension.
- g. GPO shall not issue orders under a multiple-award term contract to contractors debarred, suspended, or proposed for debarment, unless the Director, Procurement Services, or a designee states in writing the compelling reasons for such action.

#### 8. Debarment

a. General. It is the debarring official's responsibility to determine whether debarment is in the Government's interest. The debarring official may, in the public interest, debar a contractor for any of the causes in paragraph 9, using the procedures in paragraph 10. The existence of a cause

for debarment, however, does not necessarily require that the contractor be debarred; the

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seriousness of the contractor's acts or omissions and any remedial measures or mitigating factors should be considered in making any debarment decision. Before arriving at any debarment decision, the debarring official should consider factors such as the following:

- (1) Whether the contractor had effective standards of conduct and internal control systems in place at the time of the activity which constitutes cause for debarment or had adopted such procedures prior to any Government investigation of the activity cited as a cause for debarment;
- (2) Whether the contractor brought the activity cited as a cause for debarment to the attention of the appropriate Government agency in a timely manner;
- (3) Whether the contractor has fully investigated the circumstances surrounding the cause for debarment and, if so, made the result of the investigation available to the debarring official;
- (4) Whether the contractor cooperated fully with Government agencies during the investigation and any court or administrative action;
- (5) Whether the contractor has paid or has agreed to pay all criminal, civil, and administrative liability for the improper activity, including any investigative or administrative costs incurred by the Government, and has made or agreed to make full restitution;
- (6) Whether the contractor has taken appropriate disciplinary action against the individuals responsible for the activity which constitutes cause for debarment;
- (7) Whether the contractor has implemented or agreed to implement remedial measures, including any identified by the Government;
- (8) Whether the contractor has instituted or agreed to institute new or revised review and control procedures and ethics training programs;
- (9) Whether the contractor has had adequate time to eliminate the circumstances within the contractor, sorganization that led to the cause for debarment;

(10) Whether the contractor, s management recognizes and understands the seriousness of the misconduct giving rise to the cause for debarment and has implemented programs to prevent recurrence.

The existence or nonexistence of any mitigating factors or remedial measures such as set forth in paragraph 8a is not necessarily determinative of a contractor's present responsibility. Accordingly, if a cause for debarment exists, the contractor has the burden of demonstrating, to the satisfaction of the debarring official, its present responsibility and that debarment is not necessary.

Debarment constitutes debarment of all divisions or other organizational elements of the contractor, unless the debarment decision is limited by its terms to specific divisions, organizational elements, or commodities. The debarring official may extend the debarment decision to include any affiliates of the

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contractor if they are (1) specifically named, and (2) given written notice of the proposed debarment and an opportunity to respond (see paragraph 10c).

A contractor's debarment, or proposed debarment, shall be effective throughout the GPO, unless the Director, Procurement Services, or a designee states in writing the compelling reasons justifying continued business dealings between the GPO and the contractor.

#### 9. Causes for Debarment

- The debarring official may debar a contractor for a conviction of or civil judgment for:
- (1) Commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with (a) obtaining, (b) attempting to obtain, or (c) performing a public contract or subcontract;
- (2) Violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes relating to the submission of offers;
- (3) Commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;
- (4) Commission of any other offense indicating a lack of business integrity or business honesty that seriously and directly affects the present responsibility of a Government contractor or subcontractor.

- b. The debarring official may debar a contractor, based upon a preponderance of the evidence, for:
- (1) Violation of the terms of a Government contract or subcontract so serious as to justify debarment, such as:
- (a) Willful failure to perform in accordance with the terms of one or more contracts; or
- (b) A history of failure to perform, or of unsatisfactory performance of, one or more contracts.
- (2) Any other cause of so serious or compelling a nature that it affects the present responsibility of a Government contractor or subcontractor.
- c. The debarring official may debar a contractor based on debarment by another agency.

#### 10. Debarment Procedures

a. Investigation and Referral. Any constituent element of GPO that becomes aware of circumstances which may serve as the basis for a debarment shall refer those circumstances to the debarring official through appropriate channels for consideration of the debarment action. However, circumstances that involve possible criminal or fraudulent activities shall first be reported to the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) for investigative consideration. If appropriate, the OIG shall make a referral to the debarring official.

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- b. Decisionmaking Process. These procedures governing the debarment decisionmaking process are as informal as is practicable, consistent with principles of fundamental fairness. These procedures afford the contractor (and any specifically named affiliates) an opportunity to submit, in person, in writing, or through a representative, information and argument in opposition to the proposed debarment.
- c. Disputed Material Facts. In actions not based upon a conviction or civil judgment, if it is found that the contractor's submission in opposition raises a genuine dispute over facts material to the proposed debarment, the GPO shall also:
- (1) Afford the contractor an opportunity to appear with counsel, submit documentary evidence, present witnesses, and confront any person the

# agency presents; and

- (2) Make a transcribed record of the proceedings and make it available at cost to the contractor upon request, unless the contractor and the agency, by mutual agreement, waive the requirement for a transcript.
- d. Notice of Proposal to Debar. A notice of proposed debarment shall be issued by the debarring official advising the contractor and any specifically named affiliates, by certified mail, return receipt requested:
  - (1) That debarment is being considered;
- (2) Of the reasons for the proposed debarment in terms sufficient to put the contractor on notice of the conduct or transaction(s) upon which it is based;
- (3) Of the cause(s) relied upon under paragraph 9 for proposing debarment;
- (4) That, within 30 days after receipt of the notice, the contractor may submit, in person, in writing, or through a representative, information and argument in opposition to the proposed debarment, including any additional specific information that raises a genuine dispute over the material facts;
  - (5) Of the GPO's procedures governing debarment decisionmaking;
- (6) Of the effect of the issuance of the notice of proposed debarment; and
  - (7) Of the potential effect of an actual debarment.
  - e. Debarring Official's Decision
- (1) In actions based upon a conviction or judgment, or in which there is no genuine dispute over material facts, the debarring official shall make a decision on the basis of all the information in the administrative record, including any submission made by the contractor. If no suspension is in effect, the decision shall be made within 30 working days after receipt of any information and argument submitted by the contractor, unless the debarring official extends this period for good cause.

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(2) Resolution of Disputed Facts

- (a) In actions in which additional proceedings are necessary as to disputed material facts, written findings of fact shall be prepared. The debarring official shall base the decision on the facts as found, together with any information and argument submitted by the contractor and any other information in the administrative record.
- (b) The debarring official may refer matters involving disputed material facts to another official for findings of fact. The debarring official may reject any such findings, in whole or in part, only after specifically determining them to be arbitrary and capricious or clearly erroneous.
- (c) The debarring official's decision shall be made after the conclusion of the proceedings with respect to disputed facts.
- (3) In any action in which the proposed debarment is not based upon a conviction or civil judgment, the cause for debarment must be established by a preponderance of the evidence.
  - f. Notice of Debarring Official's Decision
- (1) If the debarring official decides to impose debarment, the contractor and any affiliates involved shall be given prompt notice by certified mail, return receipt requested:
  - (a) Referring to the notice of proposed debarment;
  - (b) Specifying the reasons for debarment; and
  - (c) Stating the period of debarment, including effective dates.
- (2) If debarment is not imposed, the debarring official shall promptly notify the contractor and any affiliates involved, by certified mail, return receipt requested.

# 11. Period of Debarment

- a. Debarment shall be for a period commensurate with the seriousness of the cause(s). Generally, debarment should not exceed 3 years. If suspension precedes a debarment, the suspension period shall be considered in determining the debarment period.
- b. The debarring official may extend the debarment for an additional period, if that official determines that an extension is necessary to protect the Government's interest. However, a debarment may not be extended solely on the basis of the facts and circumstances upon which the initial debarment action was based. If debarment for an additional period is determined to be

necessary, the procedures of paragraph 10 above shall be followed to extend the debarment.

- c. The debarring official may reduce the period or extent of debarment, upon the contractor's request, supported by documentation, for reasons such as:
  - (1) Newly discovered material evidence;

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- (2) Reversal of the conviction or civil judgment upon which the debarment was based;
  - (3) Bona fide change in ownership or management;
- (4) Elimination of other causes for which the debarment was imposed; or
  - (5) Other reasons the debarring official deems appropriate.

# 12. Scope of Debarment

- a. The fraudulent, criminal, or other seriously improper conduct of any officer, director, shareholder, partner, employee, or other individual associated with a contractor may be imputed to the contractor when the conduct occurred in connection with the individual's performance of duties for or on behalf of the contractor, or with the contractor's knowledge, approval, or acquiescence. The contractor's acceptance of the benefits derived from the conduct shall be evidence of such knowledge, approval, or acquiescence.
- b. The fraudulent, criminal, or other seriously improper conduct of a contractor may be imputed to any officer, director, shareholder, partner, employee, or other individual associated with the contractor who participated in, knew of, or had reason to know of the contractor's conduct.
- c. The fraudulent, criminal, or other seriously improper conduct of one contractor participating in a joint venture or similar arrangement may be imputed to other participating contractors if the conduct occurred for or on behalf of the joint venture or similar arrangement, or with the knowledge, approval, or acquiescence of these contractors. Acceptance of the benefits derived from the conduct shall be evidence of such knowledge, approval, or acquiescence.

#### 13. Suspension

a. The suspending official may, in the public interest, suspend a

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contractor for any of the causes in paragraph 14, using the procedures in paragraph 15.

# b. Nature of Suspension

- (1) Suspension is a serious action to be imposed on the basis of adequate evidence, pending the completion of investigation or legal proceedings, when it has been determined that immediate action is necessary to protect the Government's interest. In assessing the adequacy of the evidence, GPO will consider how much information is available, how credible it is given the circumstances, whether or not important allegations are corroborated, and what inferences can reasonably be drawn as a result. This assessment should include an examination of basic documents such as contracts, inspection reports, and correspondence.
- (2) The existence of a cause for suspension does not necessarily require that the contractor be suspended. The suspending official should consider the seriousness of the contractor's acts or omissions and may, but is not required to, consider remedial measures or mitigating factors, such as

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those set forth in paragraph 8a. A contractor has the burden of promptly presenting to the sus- pending official evidence of remedial measures or mitigating factors when it has reason to know that a cause for suspension exists. The existence or nonexistence of any remedial measures or mitigating factors is not necessarily determinative of a contractor's present responsibility.

- c. Suspension constitutes suspension of all divisions or other organizational elements of the contractor, unless the suspension decision is limited by its terms to specific divisions, organizational elements, or commodities. The suspending official may extend the suspension decision to include any affiliates of the contractor if they are (1) specifically named, and (2) given written notice of the suspension and an opportunity to respond (see paragraph 15c).
- d. A contractor's suspension shall be effective throughout the GPO, unless the Director, Procurement Services, or a designee states in writing the compelling reasons justifying continued business dealings between the GPO and the contractor.

# e. Additional Scope

(1) When the suspending official has authority to suspend contractors

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from both acquisition contracts pursuant to this Instruction and contracts for the purchase of Federal personal property pursuant to FPMR 101-45.6, that official shall consider simultaneously suspending the contractor from the award of acquisition contracts and from the purchase of Federal personal property.

(2) When suspending a contractor from the award of acquisition contracts and from the purchase of Federal personal property, the suspension notice shall so indicate, and the appropriate FPMR citations shall be included.

# 14. Causes for Suspension

- a. The suspending official may suspend a contractor suspected, upon adequate evidence, of:
- (1) Commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with (a) obtaining, (b) attempting to obtain, or (c) performing a public contract or subcontract;
- (2) Violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes relating to the submission of offers;
- (3) Commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;
- (4) Commission of any other offense indicating a lack of business integrity or business honesty that seriously and directly affects the present responsibility of a Government contractor or subcontractor; or
  - (5) Suspension by another agency.

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- b. Indictment for any of the causes in paragraph 14a above constitutes adequate evidence for suspension.
- c. The suspending official may, upon adequate evidence, also suspend a contractor for any other cause of so serious or compelling a nature that it affects the present responsibility of a Government contractor or subcontractor.

# 15. Suspension Procedures

a. Investigation and Referral. Any constituent element of GPO that becomes aware of circumstances which may serve as the basis for a suspension shall refer those circumstances to the suspending official through appropriate channels for consideration of the suspension action. However, circumstances that involve possible criminal or fraudulent activities shall first be reported to the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) for investigative consideration. If appropriate, the OIG shall make a referral to the suspending official.

# b. Decisionmaking Process

- (1) These procedures governing the suspension decisionmaking process are as informal as is practicable, consistent with principles of fundamental fairness. These procedures afford the contractor (and any specifically named affiliates) an opportunity, following the imposition of suspension, to submit, in person, in writing, or through a representative, information and argument in opposition to the suspension.
- (2) In actions not based on an indictment, if it is found that the contractor's submission in opposition raises a genuine dispute over facts material to the suspension and if no determination has been made, on the basis of Department of Justice advice, that substantial interests of the Government in pending or contemplated legal proceedings based on the same facts as the suspension would be prejudiced, GPO shall also:
- (a) Afford the contractor an opportunity to appear with counsel, submit documentary evidence, present witnesses, and confront any person the GPO presents; and
- (b) Make a transcribed record of the proceedings and make it available at cost to the contractor upon request, unless the contractor and the GPO, by mutual agreement, waive the requirement for a transcript.
- c. Notice of Suspension. When a contractor and any specifically named affiliates are suspended, they shall be immediately advised by certified mail, return receipt requested:
- (1) That they have been suspended and that the suspension is based on an indictment or other adequate evidence that the contractor has committed irregularities (a) of a serious nature in business dealings with the Government, or (b) seriously reflecting on the propriety of further Government dealings with the contractor, any such irregularities shall be described in terms sufficient to place the contractor on notice without disclosing the Government's evidence;

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- (2) That the suspension is for a temporary period pending the completion of an investigation and such legal proceedings as may ensue;
- (3) Of the cause(s) relied upon under paragraph 14 for imposing suspension;
  - (4) Of the effect of the suspension;
- (5) That, within 30 days after receipt of the notice, the contractor may submit, in person, in writing, or through a representative, information and argument in opposition to the suspension, including any additional specific information that raises a genuine dispute over the material facts; and
- (6) That additional proceedings to determine disputed material facts will be conducted unless (a) the action is based on an indictment, or (b) a determination is made, on the basis of Department of Justice advice, that the substantial interests of the Government in pending or contemplated legal proceedings based on the same facts as the suspension would be prejudiced.

# d. Suspending Official's Decision

(1) In actions (a) based on an indictment, (b) in which the contractor's submission does not raise a genuine dispute over material facts, or (c) in which additional proceedings to determine disputed material facts have been denied on the basis of Department of Justice advice, the suspending official's decision shall be based on all the information in the administrative record, including any submission made by the contractor.

# (2) Resolution of Disputed Facts

- (a) In actions in which additional proceedings are necessary as to disputed material facts, written findings of fact shall be prepared. The suspending official shall base the decision on the facts as found, together with any information and argument submitted by the contractor and any other information in the administrative record.
- (b) The suspending official may refer matters involving disputed material facts to another official for findings of fact. The suspending official may reject any such findings, in whole or in part, only after specifically determining them to be arbitrary and capricious or clearly erroneous.
- (c) The suspending official's decision shall be made after the conclusion of the proceedings with respect to disputed facts.

(3) The suspending official may modify or terminate the suspension or leave it in force (for example, see paragraph 11c for the reasons for reducing the period or extent of debarment). However, a decision to modify or terminate the suspension shall be without prejudice to the subsequent imposition of (a) suspension by any other agency, or (b) debarment by any agency.

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- (4) Prompt written notice of the suspending official's decision shall be sent to the contractor and any affiliates involved, by certified mail, return receipt requested.
- 16. Period of Suspension
- a. Suspension shall be for a temporary period pending the completion of investigation and any ensuing legal proceedings, unless sooner terminated by the suspending official or as provided in this subsection.
- b. If legal proceedings are not initiated within 12 months after the date of the suspension notice, the suspension shall be terminated unless an Assistant
- Attorney General requests its extension, in which case it may be extended for an additional 6 months. In no event may a suspension extend beyond 18 months, unless legal proceedings have been initiated within that period.
- c. The suspending official shall notify the Department of Justice of the proposed termination of the suspension, at least 30 days before the 12-month period expires, to give that Department an opportunity to request an extension.
- 17. Scope of Suspension. The scope of suspension shall be the same as that for debarment (see paragraph 12), except that the procedures of paragraph 15 shall be used in imposing suspension.
- 18. GPO List of Parties Excluded From Procurement Programs
- a. The debarring and suspending official shall be responsible for compilation, maintenance, revision, and distribution of a list of firms and individuals suspended or debarred to whom contract awards of any nature will not be made, or from whom bids or proposals will not be solicited as provided

in this paragraph.

- b. The list shall be distributed bimonthly to GPO contracting officers and shall show as a minimum the following information:
- (1) The names and addresses of all debarred, suspended, or ineligible contractors, in alphabetical order, with cross-reference when more than one name is involved in a single action;
  - (2) The termination date for each listing; and
- (3) The name and telephone number of the point of contact for the action.
- 19. Grounds for Listing Firms or Individuals. Firms or individuals may be placed on the GPO List of Parties Excluded From Procurement Programs based on the following:
- a. Those listed by the Comptroller General in accordance with section 3 of the Walsh-Healey Public Contracts Act (41 U.S.C. 37) which have violated any of the agreements or representations of the Act.

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- b. Those reported by the Secretary of Labor, and listed by the Comptroller General, to have violated the prevailing wage or overtime provisions of any Federal statute.
  - c. Those the Public Printer determines to suspend administratively.
  - d. Those the Public Printer determines to debar administratively.
- 20. Inquiries. Inquiries concerning this Instruction shall be directed to the Director, Analysis and Review Staff, Procurement Services.
- 21. Effective Date. This Instruction is effective upon issuance.

MICHAEL F. DiMARIO Public Printer